

Whereas specialized instructional support personnel work with teachers, school leaders, and parents to ensure that all students are successful in school;

Whereas specialized instructional support personnel encourage multidisciplinary collaboration to promote student and school success;

Whereas specialized instructional support personnel provide educational, social, emotional, and behavioral interventions and activities that support—

- (1) student learning; and
- (2) teaching;

Whereas specialized instructional support personnel help to create environments that are safe, supportive, and conducive to learning;

Whereas safe and supportive school environments are associated with improved academic performance;

Whereas specialized instructional support personnel support—

- (1) student communication;
- (2) the development of social skills by students;
- (3) the physical wellness of students;
- (4) the physical development of students; and
- (5) the behavioral, emotional, and mental health of students; and

Whereas specialized instructional support personnel serve all students who struggle with barriers to learning: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of April 25 through April 29, 2022, as “National Specialized Instructional Support Personnel Appreciation Week”;

(2) recognizes that specialized instructional support personnel implement evidence-based practices to improve student outcomes;

(3) commends—

(A) those individuals who work as specialized instructional support personnel; and

(B) the individuals and organizations that support the efforts made by specialized instructional support personnel to promote and improve the availability of specialized instructional support services;

(4) encourages Federal, State, and local policymakers to work together to raise awareness of the importance of specialized instructional support personnel in school climate and education efforts;

(5) recognizes the important role of specialized instructional support personnel in efforts to improve mental health, reduce drug use, and improve overall community safety for students; and

(6) encourages experts to share best practices so that others can replicate the success of those experts.

SENATE RESOLUTION 605—DESIGNATING APRIL 2022 AS “SECOND CHANCE MONTH”

Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 605

Whereas every individual is endowed with human dignity and value;

Whereas redemption and second chances are values of the United States;

Whereas millions of citizens of the United States have a criminal record;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of individuals return to their communities from Federal and State prisons every year;

Whereas many individuals returning from Federal and State prisons have paid their

debt for committing crimes but still face significant legal and societal barriers (referred to in this preamble as “collateral consequences”);

Whereas collateral consequences for an individual returning from a Federal or State prison are often mandatory and take effect automatically, regardless of—

- (1) whether there is a nexus between the crime and public safety;
- (2) the seriousness of the crime;
- (3) the time that has passed since the individual committed the crime; or
- (4) the efforts of the individual to make amends or earn back the trust of the public;

Whereas, for individuals returning to their communities from Federal and State prisons, gaining meaningful employment is one of the most significant predictors of successful reentry and has been shown to reduce future criminal activity;

Whereas many individuals who have been incarcerated struggle to find employment and access capital to start a small business because of collateral consequences, which are often not directly related to the offenses the individuals committed or any proven public safety benefit;

Whereas many States have laws that prohibit an individual with a criminal record from working in certain industries or obtaining professional licenses;

Whereas, in addition to employment, education has been shown to be a significant predictor of successful reentry for individuals returning from Federal and State prisons;

Whereas an individual with a criminal record often has a lower level of educational attainment than the general population and has significant difficulty acquiring admission to, and funding for, educational programs;

Whereas an individual who has been convicted of certain crimes is often barred from receiving the financial aid necessary to acquire additional skills and knowledge;

Whereas an individual with a criminal record—

- (1) faces collateral consequences in securing a place to live; and
- (2) is often barred from seeking access to public housing;

Whereas collateral consequences prevent millions of individuals in the United States from contributing fully to their families and communities;

Whereas collateral consequences can contribute to recidivism, which increases crime and victimization and decreases public safety;

Whereas collateral consequences have particularly impacted underserved communities of color and community rates of employment, housing stability, and recidivism;

Whereas the inability to find gainful employment and other collateral consequences inhibit the economic mobility of an individual with a criminal record, which can negatively impact the well-being of the children and family of the individual for generations;

Whereas the bipartisan First Step Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-391; 132 Stat. 5194) was signed into law on December 21, 2018, to increase opportunities for individuals incarcerated in Federal prisons to participate in meaningful recidivism reduction programs and prepare for their second chances;

Whereas the programs authorized by the Second Chance Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-199; 122 Stat. 657)—

- (1) have provided reentry services to more than 164,000 individuals in 49 States and the District of Columbia since the date of enactment of the Act; and
- (2) were reauthorized by the First Step Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-391; 132 Stat. 5194);

Whereas the anniversary of the death of Charles Colson, who used his second chance following his incarceration for a Watergate-related crime to found Prison Fellowship, the largest program in the United States that provides outreach to prisoners, former prisoners, and their families, falls on April 21; and

Whereas the designation of April as “Second Chance Month” may contribute to—

- (1) increased public awareness about—
 - (A) the impact of collateral consequences; and
 - (B) the need for closure for individuals with a criminal record who have paid their debt; and
- (2) opportunities for individuals, employers, congregations, and communities to extend second chances to those individuals: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2022 as “Second Chance Month”;

(2) honors the work of communities, governmental institutions, nonprofit organizations, congregations, employers, and individuals to remove unnecessary legal and societal barriers that prevent individuals with criminal records from becoming productive members of society; and

(3) calls upon the people of the United States to observe “Second Chance Month” through actions and programs that—

- (A) promote awareness of those unnecessary legal and social barriers; and
- (B) provide closure for individuals with a criminal record who have paid their debt.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I have three requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 28, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 28, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 28, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, MAY 2, 2022

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 3 p.m. Monday, May 2, and that following the prayer and pledge,